

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
REQUEST FOR FILING APPLICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. 3(b)  
WITHOUT FILING FEE OR EXECUTED INVENTOR'S DECLARATION

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

1639 U. S. PTO  
12/20/99

Atty. Dkt. 540-180  
Date: December 20, 1999

Sir:

This is a request for filing a new PATENT APPLICATION under Rule 53(b) entitled:  
**SURFACE TOPOLOGY INSPECTION**

without a filing fee and/or without an executed inventor's oath/declaration.

This application is made by the below identified inventor(s). Attached hereto are the following papers:

An abstract together with  
18 pages of specification and claims including  
19 numbered claims and also attached is/are  
7 sheets of accompanying drawings.  
 This application is based on the following prior foreign application(s):

Application No.	Country	Filing Date
9828474.8	Great Britain	24 December 1998

respectively, the entire content of which is hereby incorporated by reference in this application, and priority is hereby claimed therefrom.

This application is based on the following prior provisional application(s):

Application No.	Filing Date
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respectively, the entire content of which is hereby incorporated by reference in this application, and priority is hereby claimed therefrom.

Certified copy/ies of foreign applications attached.

This application is a  continuation/ division/ continuation-in-part of application Serial No. , filed . Please amend the specification by inserting before the first line: --This application is a  continuation/ division/  continuation-in-part of application Serial No. , filed , the entire content of which is hereby incorporated by reference in this application.--

Please amend the specification by inserting before the first line: --This is a continuation of PCT application No. , filed , the entire content of which is hereby incorporated by reference in this application.--

Please amend the specification by inserting before the first line: --This application claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application No. , filed , the entire content of which is hereby incorporated by reference in this application.--

Preliminary amendment to claims (attached hereto), to be entered before calculation of the fee.

Also attached.

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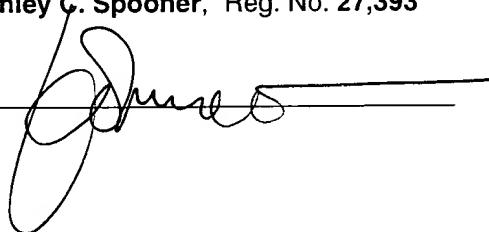
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NOTE: FOR ADDITIONAL INVENTORS, check box  and attach sheet with same information.  
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SCS:lmv